



Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Kemmerer, WY

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

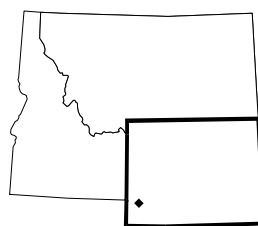
EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. Since 1995, EPA has funded more than 150 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Kemmerer for a Brownfields Pilot. The city (population 3,250) is the seat of Lincoln County. Since the end of the oil and gas boom in the early 1980s, higher paying mining, construction, and manufacturing jobs have steadily been replaced with less lucrative service industry positions. In Lincoln County, total employment and available labor have dropped by about 40% over the past decade. Recruitment of small to mid-sized manufacturing and professional firms is difficult because there are few available sites, despite the area's low population density. Almost 75% of the land in Lincoln County is federally owned, and much of the private land is owned by a railroad company. Homesteaders, with patented agricultural land, account for much of the remaining land ownership.

A city-owned 16-acre parcel represents one of the few opportunities for redevelopment in Lincoln County. The Pilot area contains 12 vacant buildings, including a potentially contaminated, idled power plant on the Hams Fork River. Pilot funds will enable the city to assess the site to determine if there are detectable levels of contamination and what type of cleanup may be necessary.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Kemmerer, Wyoming

Date of Announcement:
May 1998

Amount: \$105,000

Profile: The Pilot targets a municipally-owned 16-acre property with 12 buildings, including an abandoned power plant, for assessment and redevelopment.

Contacts:

City of Kemmerer
(307) 828-2360

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 8
(303) 312-6931

Visit the EPA Region 8 Brownfields web site at:
[http://www.epa.gov/region08/html/
brownf.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region08/html/brownf.htm)

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES

The Pilot aims to return the power plant property to productive use while protecting human health and the environment. The Pilot will assess and quantify any risks posed by the power plant property and identify appropriate, community-supported reuses for the area. The information gained through the assessment process, and the cleanup and redevelopment plan will be used to leverage additional public and private funding.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Reviewing existing environmental data to determine whether more cleanup of the identified brownfields property is needed;
- Conducting environmental sampling on the property, to determine the extent of contamination and associated health and environmental risks;
- Implementing a community education and involvement plan to obtain input on cleanup and reuse of the property; and
- Completing a cleanup and redevelopment plan that identifies appropriate uses and public preferences for reuse.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.